

1 HONORABLE RONALD B. LEIGHTON
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4 UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
5 WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON
6 AT TACOMA

7 SIMON PROPERTY GROUP, INC.,
8 Plaintiff,

9 v.
10 RONALD L. RENFRO and LANA Y.
11 RENFRO,
12 Defendants.

No. 12-cv-5228 RBL

ORDER

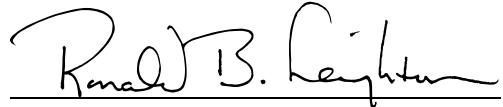
[Dkt. #1]

13 Before the Court is a stipulated motion to withdraw the bankruptcy reference. The
14 parties have requested withdrawal under 28 U.S.C. § 157(b)(5):

15 The district court shall order that personal injury tort and wrongful death claims shall be
16 tried in the district court in which the bankruptcy case is pending, or in the district court
17 in the district in which the claim arose, as determined by the district court in which the
bankruptcy case is pending.

18 While it is unclear that the claims at issue—defamation, interference with business expectancy,
19 and misrepresentation—are “personal tort claims,” *see* 1 Collier on Bankruptcy ¶ 3.06 n. 1–3,
20 *The Treatment of Personal Injury Tort and Wrongful Death Claims* (16th ed. 2012) (noting
21 diverging views), the Court may similarly withdraw the reference because the claims are non-
22 core, 28 U.S.C. § 157(d). Here, the claims at issue rely on State law, not bankruptcy law, and the
23 Court therefore **GRANTS** the motion to withdraw the reference. (Dkt. #1).

24 Dated this 19th day of April, 2012.

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26 
27 RONALD B. LEIGHTON
28 UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE